

Conservation Corner

Back to School?

Students Can Help Chalk Up Water Savings

If you have students at home, you've shifted into the "school year" routine by now. This year, make sure that routine includes a commitment to water conservation. Your children can help make sure their schools are water wise. Here's how.

One of the most important conservation actions any student can take at school or home is to report water leaks. A leaking drinking fountain or running faucet, toilet or urinal in the restroom wastes a lot of water. A dripping faucet can waste up to 50 gallons of water per day. Toilets and urinals that keep running after you flush them can mean hundreds of gallons of water lost in a day. Tell your child to point out leaks to a teacher or the Administration office.

Students can be an extra set of eyes for the school maintenance crew when going to and from school or walking from class to class. Watch for water leaking from hose bibs or the sprinkler system and notify a teacher or the front office. By doing things like this your child is helping protect of our water future.

If your school has a science fair, create a water-related exhibit that helps others understand more about this precious resource. Tucson Water can help by providing information and answering questions. Classes can tour our water plant, water quality lab, or the Sweetwater Wetlands to learn about Tucson's water resources.

Finally, be sure to share your water knowledge and your commitment to saving water with your friends and classmates! Learning about and practicing water conservation is something that we can all do to make Tucson a better place to live.

Your Water Connection

NEWS & TIPS FOR TUCSON WATER CUSTOMERS

Water 101

Water 101 is a regular column that explores an aspect of our water system in response to questions from Tucson Water customers. This month we explain how research helps Tucson Water stay in touch with the latest technologies. **If you have a question you'd like to have answered here, or if you have a suggestion for a topic, please call us at 791-4331 or email TW_Web1@ci.tucson.az.us.**

Research Helps Us Provide You with Answers

It's September and a new school year has begun. At Tucson Water, we're also committed to learning. We want to know as much as we can about water resources, quality, treatment, and water conservation, so we can provide you with better service and the assurance that you'll have enough water to meet your needs in the future. We participate in many local, national and international research efforts to stay up-to-date on the latest technologies. For

Water 101 continued inside

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Tucson Water's Research Provides Answers About the Future

Water 101 continued from front

example, we're working with the American Water Works Association on a national customer service improvement program.

As part of the *Long Range Water Plan 2000-2050*, we're looking ahead at the water resource and water quality decisions our community must make next year and in the years to come. In 2006, you'll help Tucson's Mayor and Council decide what the mineral level of the Clearwater blend will be in the future.

To provide you with enough information to help make that decision, we're researching various types of mineral control treatment technologies. Each technology has its own set of short and long-term costs and benefits. We also need to know what the cost will be to customers if we allow the mineral level to rise naturally. How will higher mineral levels affect your water-using appliances and evaporative coolers? What will the water taste like? In addition to doing our own research, we'll be looking at what other communities have already learned – and then we'll share all these answers with you.

We're also researching ways to strengthen water conservation in our community. The Community Conservation Task Force will be evaluating a

number of strategies. For example, they'll be discussing the use of incentives or ordinances to install water-efficient fixtures in existing and new homes and businesses.

They will need to know just how many existing homes and businesses still use high-water-use toilets and other fixtures, what potential exists for using greywater or water harvesting systems, and how other communities support new water saving technologies.



Making sure our water system is secure is another area where Tucson Water is looking to the future. We've been working for a number of years to enhance the security of our water system, and are evaluating new technologies that will continuously monitor the quality of our drinking water to ensure that it remains safe. Right now, we're involved with a number of other regional water providers to study security measures.

In all of these ways and many others, Tucson Water is ensuring that we have the best and latest information so that we can serve you and our community in the best way possible. For more information, please call our Public Information Office at 791-4331.



On the Water Front

We live in an age of changes and the water industry is no different than any other when it comes to rapid advancement and new ideas.

Staying in touch with the progress and on the cutting edge of new information is an important part of Tucson Water's responsibility to you. We review the latest technologies, keep abreast of changes in water quality regulations, customer service improvements, water system and maintenance options and other water related issues.

We also work on research projects with a number of national and international organizations and partner with other water providers here in our region and around the world. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and its sister organization, the American Water Works Association Research Foundation, are two groups we work with extensively.

We recently completed a study of arsenic treatment for drinking water and are in the midst of a customer service improvement project with AWWA. We've worked with the Research Foundation on water security planning among many other projects.

In addition, water professionals from around the world come to Tucson to study our Reclaimed Water System and the Clearwater Facility as well as other

programs and practices that are part of our day-to-day operations. Representatives of water systems in Israel, Australia, Africa and China have visited, and we always learn as much from them as they do from us.

Tucson Water professionals stay in touch with their peers around the world and are sometimes invited to visit other utilities to learn and share information. We're also often recognized by national and state associations for our assistance and achievements. But the bottom line is always doing a better, more efficient job here at home.

We stay in touch with the newest technologies, the latest ideas, the best ways of providing service – so we can continue to provide the best quality water to you and your family.

Dave Modeer
Director, Tucson Water

Visit the Tucson Water Web Site at www.tucsonaz.gov/water

Your Water Connection is produced by Tucson Water. To receive a copy, or to receive this information in Spanish, call 791-4331 or mail your request to:
Tucson Water, Customer Information, P.O. Box 27210,
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City of Tucson TTY number: 791-2639

Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor,
llame al 791-4331.



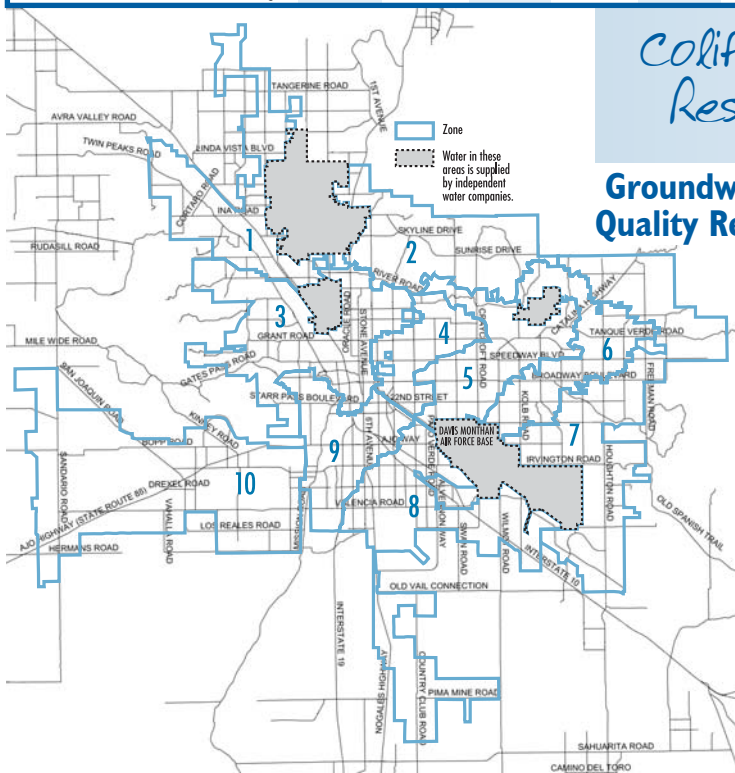
Clearwater Quality Report- July 2005

54	Sodium (mg/L)
285.8	Mineral Content (mg/L)
127**	Hardness (mg/L)
7.77	pH (S.U.)
Neg	Coliform Bacteria
0.78	Chlorine level average (mg/L)
75.9	Temp (deg F)

* Values for June; ** Values for April

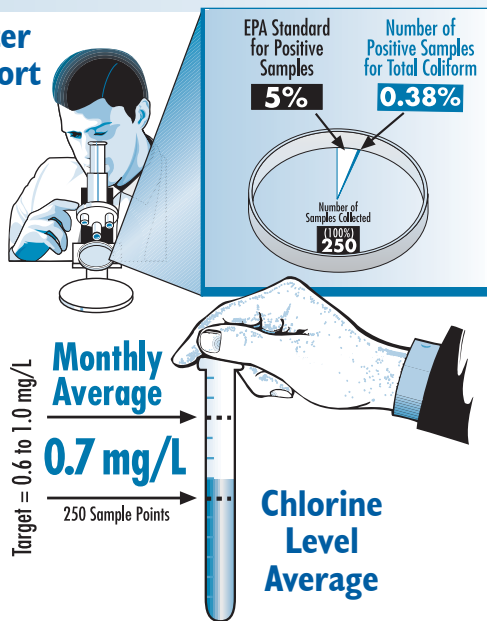
Groundwater Quality Report - June 2005

Water Quality Zone		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	System Wide
Sodium (mg/L)	Average	49	50	49	44	44	43	35	43	57	50	46
83 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	34-77	48-51	31-61	33-54	32-51	28-50	26-49	38-48	43-101	41-53	26-101
Mineral Content (mg/L)	Average	424	321	339	267	294	305	254	362	302	260	307
246 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	175-618	243-339	193-698	186-348	173-344	220-346	172-333	296-451	211-415	211-343	172-698
Hardness (mg/L)	Average	138	141	138	122	132	138	123	186	134	121	138
83 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	62-204	132-150	96-184	102-138	82-154	116-160	97-138	116-240	80-232	75-139	62-240
pH (S.U.)	Average	7.6	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.8	7.8	7.8
246 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	7.3-8.1	7.8-8.1	7.0-8.0	7.5-8.0	7.3-8.1	7.4-8.1	7.3-7.9	7.2-7.8	7.4-8.0	7.5-8.0	7.0-8.1
Temperature (deg F)	Average	84	88	84	88	87	85	85	85	87	87	86
246 SAMPLING POINTS	Range	77-92	86-92	75-98	82-92	81-95	79-90	82-90	78-91	82-90	84-91	75-98



Coliform Bacteria Testing Results - June 2005

Groundwater Quality Report



"mg/L" means milligrams per liter;
1 mg/L = 1 teaspoon in 1,302 gallons

To give you a more accurate measurement of the water quality in your neighborhood, the Tucson Water service area has been divided into 10 zones based on differences in water pressure and water quality. For a detailed description of the zone boundaries, call 791-4331.

With the exception of chlorine and coliform bacteria, none of the water quality parameters reported here have U.S. Environmental Protection Agency primary standards set for them. For more information about primary and secondary water quality standards, visit Tucson Water's website at www.tucsonaz.gov/water.